

Hot Liquids Burn Like Fire

Protect your baby from scalds

Scalds caused 90% of all burns to children under five.

HOT BEVERAGES

- Put the coffee down when you hold the baby. A wiggling baby can jiggle your arm and spill the drink all over himself.
- Put drinks and soups toward the center of the table away from curious fingers. Babies like to grab things.
- Consider replacing tablecloths with place mats to prevent your child from pulling everything on the table onto herself.
- Hot beverages caused one-half of the burns to children under five.
- 81% of the people burned by hot beverages were under five.

TAP WATER

- It takes only one second for water at 155°F to cause a third degree burn.
- Set your hot water heater to temperatures of 125°F or less. (Massachusetts law states that the temperature must be between 110°F and 130°F.)
- Test the bath water before you put the baby in it. The temperature of hot water can
- Always supervise young children in the bath. Babies and toddlers like playing with knobs and levers. They may turn on the hot water when you turn your back.
- 74% of the tap water scald patients were under five years old.

COOKING

- Turn pot handles inward.
- Establish and enforce a **NO** zone around the stove. Do not let children play near the stove or barbecue. This protects children from cooking liquids, grease and the hot metal.
- Children under five were 5 ½, times more likely to be burned by cooking activities.
- 32% of all cooking-related burns were suffered by children under five years old.

Statistics were obtained from the 2004 Annual Report of the Massachusetts Burn Injury Reporting System.



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